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Message Text

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53
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-07 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06

SIL-01 AGR-20 INT-08 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /169 W
---------- 070352
R 291011Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9226
INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 8057

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: ETRD, UR, FI
SUBJ: REPORTED DIVERSION OF FINNISH PULP EXPORTS TO USSR

REF: A) MOSCOW 7101; B) HELSINKI 1009

1. EMBASSY WAS UNABLE OBTAIN ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON REPORT THAT FINNS SHIPPING ADDITIONAL LARGE QUANTITIES OF PULP TO USSR (REF A) BECAUSE SOURCE OF REPORT (INTERNATIONAL PAPER CO. REP) HAD DEPARTED MOSCOW PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REF B.

2. HOWEVER, IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR MAY 28, WILLIAM F. MAY, CHAIRMAN OF BOARD AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER NOTED THAT SITUATION IN PULP MARKETING AREA WHICH INCLUDED SCANDINAVIA, CANADA, AND US WAS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT DUE TO FACT THAT FINNS WERE SHIPPING TO USSR THIS YEAR 600,000 TONS OF PULP WHIC WOULD HAVE ORDINARILY MOVED WEST. MAY ATTRIBUTED THIS DEVELOPMENT TO TWO FACTORS: A) EXPLOSIONS IN AT LEAST ONE AND PROBABLY TWO SOVIET PULP MILLS, CENTERED IN RECOVERY BOILERS; AND 2) FINNISH NEED PAY SHARPLY HIGHER PRICES FOR DELIVERIES OF SOVIET CRUDE OIL. SUBJECT OF FINNISH PULP TRADE AROSE IN MAY'S CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR INDIRECTLY AND AS RELATED TO POSSIBLE AMERICAN CAN INTEREST IN SELLING
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SOVIETS ITS NEW TECHNOLOGY, NOW IN USE IN OREGON PLANT, FOR

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PRODUCING PULP WITHOUT NEED OF REUBVERY BOILER STAGE. MAY SPECULATED THAT SOVIETS MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN THIS PROCESS SINCE THEY SEEM TO HAVE PROBLEM WITH EXPLODING RECOVERY BOILERS.

3. COMMENT: WHETHER OR NOT FINNS IN FACT INCREASING THEIR SALES OF PULP TO USSR AND DECREASING SALES TO WEST, INTERNATIONAL PULP/PAPER TRADE APPEARS TO BELIEVE THAT THIS IS THE CASE.
STOESSEL

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